

APPEARED
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The KGB and the Nuclear Freeze

Critics of President Reagan's charge that the Soviets have manipulated the U.S. nuclear freeze movement are finding themselves with egg on their faces. Not only is there much public evidence of the KGB-freeze connection, but the House Intelligence Committee is expected to release a declassified version of testimony on the subject given before that committee by FBI counter-intelligence chief Edward O'Malley.

According to one source familiar with the testimony, the FBI has developed "hard intelligence" on KGB efforts to penetrate and exploit the so-called "peace movement."

FBI Director William Webster said last week during an appearance at the convention of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) in Atlanta that the bureau has supplied the National Security Council with a special report on the issue of Soviet influence in the freeze movement "which included factual data on this problem...."

Webster also indicated that Soviet activity in this area was part of an "Active Measures" campaign, which, by definition, involves a wide range of activities—the use of front groups, disinformation, political influence operations and media manipulation—to promote Soviet foreign policy objectives.

At his last news conference, President Reagan was asked by a reporter if he had any evidence of foreign involvement in the U.S. peace movement. "Yes, there is plenty of evidence," the President replied. "It's even been published by some of your fraternity. There was no question but that the Soviet Union saw an advantage...built around the idea of a nuclear freeze, since they are out ahead."

After noting that the "overwhelming majority" of freeze supporters are sincere and well-intentioned, and that his Administration is dedicated to negotiating reductions in U.S.-Soviet nuclear weaponry, the President said, "But, yes, there has been [foreign involvement] in the organization of some of the big demonstrations—the one in New York and so forth. There is no question about foreign agents that were sent to help instigate and help

create and keep such a movement going."

Asked about the extent of foreign involvement, and whether any money had changed hands, the President said, "I can't go beyond what I've done because I don't discuss intelligence matters, and that's what I would be getting into now."

Roger Young, the assistant FBI director for congressional and public affairs, told HUMAN EVENTS that the President spoke "from a solid base of information, which we, the FBI, furnished the White House back in early October." Young added, "We know that the KGB has done certain things to target the peace movement, the freeze movement—they are relatively interchangeable at this point—to exert influence on them."

At the White House press briefing the day after the presidential news conference, journalists asked spokesman Larry Speakes if he could produce any evidence supporting President Reagan's statements on the Soviet-freeze connection. Speakes said, "The Soviet effort to exploit the well-motivated intentions of those in other nations who are seeking peace is well-known. There is considerable U.S. government documentation on this, and a good deal is on the public record."

He then provided the following list of government reports and magazine articles:

"Department of State Special Report No. 88, Soviet 'Active Measures'—Forgery, Disinformation, Political Operations, October 1981; and its update, Special Report No. 101, Soviet Active Measures: An Update, July 1982.

"Department of State Foreign Affairs Notes, World Peace Council: Instrument of Soviet Foreign Policy, April 1982.

"Department of State Foreign Affairs Notes, Expulsion of Soviet Representatives in Foreign Countries, 1980-1981.

"House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence [report] entitled, 'Soviet Covert Action' (The Forgery Offensive), February 1980. This committee has just completed extensive hearings on 'Soviet Active Measures' and will issue an unclassified transcript in the very near future [a reference to the O'Malley testimony]

"Among a number of interesting articles on this subject are:

"John Barron's article in the October 1982 *Reader's Digest*.

"Others include an article in the May 1982 issue of *Commentary* by Vladimir Bukovsky, now connected with Kings College at Cambridge, England, 'The Peace Movement and the Soviet Union.'

"A June 1982 article in *The American Spectator* by Rael Jean Isaac and Eric Isaac, 'The Counterfeit Peacemakers, Atomic Freeze'.

"June 1982 *Reader's Digest* article by Frank Chapple, general secretary of Great Britain's electrical union, 'Perspective on the Peace Movement, I. Ban Whose Bomb?, II. Masters of Manipulation.'

"Plus studies published by the Heritage Foundation, the American Security Council and others."

Perhaps the most important article on the list was the John Barron piece, "The KGB's Magical War for 'Peace,' " which appeared in the October issue of the *Reader's Digest*.

In that article, Barron points out that less than one month after Soviet dictator Leonid Brezhnev issued his Feb. 23, 1981, call for a nuclear freeze, the first national strategy conference of the American nuclear weapons freeze campaign was held at Georgetown University in Washington, and was attended by Oleg Bogdanov, a Soviet "Active Measures" specialist, and Yuri S. Kapralov, a KGB operative who represents himself as a counselor at the Soviet Embassy in Washington.

Barron also points out that the World Peace Council, the most important international Soviet front group, has played a key role in the peace movement, primarily through its American affiliate, the U.S. Peace Council.

(In fact, even before the *Reader's Digest* published John Barron's explosive article, HUMAN EVENTS had exposed Soviet agent Kapralov's involvement in the freeze campaign and the key role played by the Mobilization for Survival, which includes both the U.S. Peace Council and the Communist party. See HUMAN EVENTS, April, 17, 1982, "How Far Left Is Manipulating U.S. Nuclear 'Freeze' Movement.")

Despite the abundance of evidence showing Soviet manipulation of the peace movement, supporters of the freeze were quick to denounce the President for drawing attention to the Soviet link.

The New York Times quoted ACLU spokesman Morton Halperin as saying, "It is disheartening to see an American President returning to the tactics of McCarthyism. Charges of secret manipulation by foreign agents poison the well of public debate."

The Washington Post quoted Sen. Mark Hatfield (R.-Ore.), a co-sponsor of the nuclear freeze resolution in the Senate, as saying, "I fought the Communists in China when I was with the Navy. I fought them on the platforms in a debate on an ideological basis. I just haven't found one in the nuclear freeze movement."

Nevertheless, to its credit, the Washington Post story on the controversy caused by the President's remarks actually noted some of the contents of the Barron article, mentioning, for example, Soviet agent Kapralov's involvement.

NBC News carried a story on the President's remarks, but correspondent Robert Hager tried to downplay the importance of Soviet front groups and Soviet agents in the freeze campaign. Hager then introduced Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D.-N.Y.), the vice-chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, as someone who "says he has access to as much intelligence as the President."

Moynihan then said, "There has never been from any of the intelligence agencies, any part of that community, the least suggestion, the least suggestion that Soviet influences were behind the nuclear freeze movement." (Moynihan repeated the phrase, "The least suggestion," as if to emphasize that charges of a KGB-freeze link were totally made up.)

Intelligence and internal security experts contacted by HUMAN EVENTS were aghast at the comments of Sen. Moynihan, who, incidentally, was not identified by NBC News as a co-sponsor of the Kennedy-Hatfield nuclear freeze resolution in the Senate. (Moynihan's also a sponsor of the Jackson-Warner resolution that calls for reductions on both sides before a freeze.)

These experts charged that Moynihan, in fact, does *not* have access to the same intelligence as the President. Secondly, if he does have such access, he has obviously refused to take the evidence (the FBI report and the O'Malley testimony) seriously. Whatever the case, observers agree that Moynihan has revealed himself to be totally out of touch with reality.

As the President himself noted, however, evidence of the Soviet-freeze connection is not necessarily secret. Some of it has been published. What remains is for some members of the news media and the Congress to acknowledge its existence.